



West Virginia
Agricultural
Statistics Service

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SEPTEMBER RED MEAT PRODUCTION

WEST VIRGINIA—Commercial red meat production during September 2003 totaled 700,000 pounds. This was 31 percent above August 2003, but 13 percent below September 2002 production. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 881,000 pounds live weight, down 7 percent from September 2002. Cattle slaughter totaled 900 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight at 960 pounds was down 9 pounds from a year ago.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 215,000 pounds live weight, down 21 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 900 head, down 200 head from the previous year. The average live weight at 245 pounds was down 6 pounds from the previous year.

Commercial Sheep and Lamb slaughter totaled 8,000 pounds live weight, down 27 percent from last year. Sheep and lamb slaughter totaled 100 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight at 112 pounds was up 22 pounds from the previous year.

UNITED STATES —Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.01 billion pounds in September, a monthly record high, up 3 percent from the 3.87 billion pounds produced in September 2002.

September 2002 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.
September 2003 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.31 billion pounds and a monthly record high, was 5 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.12 million head, up 9 percent from September 2002. The average live weight was down 36 pounds from the previous year, at 1,227 pounds.

Veal production totaled 15.4 million pounds, 6 percent below September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 82,600 head, down 7 percent from September 2002. The average live weight was 5 pounds above last year, at 308 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.66 billion pounds, a monthly record high, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.55 million head, 1 percent above September 2002. The average live weight was 3 pounds above the previous year, at 263 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 16.9 million pounds, was down 4 percent from September 2002. Sheep slaughter totaled 256,300 head, 7 percent below last year. The average live weight was 131 pounds, up 3 pounds from September a year ago.

January to September 2003 commercial red meat production was 35.0 billion pounds, down slightly from 2002. Accumulated beef production was down slightly from last year, veal was down 1 percent, pork was up slightly from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 9 percent.